

positioning a first clip object representing the first time-based data source with respect to a local time line to define a start time and duration relative to the local time line for accessing the first time-based data source;

selecting a second time-based data source from the selection of available data sources, the second time-based data source being of a different data type than the first time-based data source;

positioning a second clip object representing the second time-based data source with respect to the local time line to define a start time and duration relative to the local time line for accessing the second time-based data source;

creating at least one meta-clip object representing the local time line and the first and second clip objects positioned relative thereto, the at least one meta-clip object being positionable with respect to a global time line of an edit, distinct from the local time line, such that the start time and duration of each of the first and second clip objects in the at least one meta-clip are re-mapped to the global time line upon the at least one meta-clip being positioned relative to the global time line; and

adding the at least one meta-clip object to the selection of available data sources.

4. (Twice Amended) A method of defining in a nonlinear editing system an editing comprising time-based data of at least two differing data types disposed relative to a global time line, comprising:

creating at least one meta-clip object each comprising a respective local time line distinct from the global time line, a first clip object representing a first time-based data source selected from a list of available data sources, and a second clip object representing a second time-based data source selected from the list of available data sources, the second data source being of a different data type than the first data source, the first and second clip objects being positioned relative to the local time line to define a respective start time and duration relative to the local time line for accessing each selected data source;

adding the at least one meta-clip object to the list of available data sources;

selecting at least one of the meta-clip objects from the list of available data sources and positioning the at least one selected meta-clip object with respect to the global time line; and

re-mapping to the global time line the start time and duration of the clip objects comprising each selected meta-clip object in accordance with the position of each selected meta-clip object relative to the global time line.

11. (Amended) A non-linear editing system for creating an edit by accessing and manipulating time-based data of at least two differing data types, comprising:

a storage device to store time-based data sources of at least two different types;

a computer operatively connected to the storage device to access the time-based data sources stored therein;

at least one output device to display to a user a graphical user interface of a program for non-linear editing executed by the computer and to output a result of the edit to the user; and

at least one user input device to receive input for the program from the user, the input being configured to:

create with the computer at least one meta-clip object each comprising a respective local time line, a first clip object representing a first one of the stored data sources, a second clip object representing a second one of the stored data sources, the second data source being of a different data type than the first data source, the first and second clip objects being positioned relative to the local time line to define a respective start time and duration relative to the local time line for accessing each data source;

select with the computer at least one of the meta-clip objects; and

define with the computer the positioning of each selected meta-clip object relative to a global time line distinct from the local time lines so as to initiate re-mapping of the start time and duration of each of the clip objects represented by the meta-clip objects according to the relative position of the local time lines and the global time line.

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action of October 24, 2001, in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, reconsideration is requested. Claims 1, 4 and 11 have been amended. A marked up version of these claims is attached. Accordingly, Claims 1-11 remain in the application of which claims 1, 4 and 11 are independent.